

Arbor Day

April 24, 2026

WHEREAS in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees; and,

WHEREAS this Holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska in 1872. Lancaster City has celebrated since 1884; and,

WHEREAS Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and,

WHEREAS Lancaster City has been recognized as a Tree City U.S.A. by the National Arbor Day Foundation for 49 years and desires to continue its tree-planting ways; and,

WHEREAS this past year as part of its *Trees for People* Plan, and made possible through ARPA funding, the City planted over 400 street and park trees through the Urban Forest Reset Project; and,

WHEREAS this year, through the Catalyst Fund and American Forests, the City is removing hazardous street trees and replanting at over 200 locations; and,

WHEREAS trees reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife; and,

WHEREAS trees in our City increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and,

WHEREAS trees are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jaime Arroyo, Mayor of the City of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim April 24, 2026, as **ARBOR DAY** in the City of Lancaster. I urge all residents to support efforts to care for our trees and woodlands and to support our City's Urban and Community Forestry Program. Further, I urge all residents to plant trees to gladden the hearts and promote the well-being of present and future generations.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand caused the seal of this City to be affixed.



SIGNATURE ON FILE

Jaime Arroyo, Mayor
April 24, 2026